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Message Text

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67
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01 IO-14 EB-11 SAJ-01 SCI-06

DRC-01 /157 W
---------- 004826
R 301752Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0062
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01640

LIVE OAK FOR US EYES ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, GE
SUBJECT: EAST GERMAN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES OF JAN 26

REF: A) BONN 1451; B) BERLIN 160; C)BERLIN 156

SUMMARY: FRG REPS REPORTED AT JANUARY 29 BONN GROUP SESSION ON MEETING EARLIER SAME DAY OF FRG DELEGATION TO FRG/GDR TRANSIT COMMISSION. PRELIMINARY VIEW OF DELEGATION IS THAT GDR TOOK ADVANTAGE OF BONA FIDE MANHUNT AND EMPLOYED EXAGGERATED MEASURES TO PUT ON A DEMONSTRATION. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG REPS REPORTED JANUARY 29 IN BONN GROUP THAT FRG DELEGATION TO MIXED TRANSIT COMMISSION HAD MET EARLIER IN DAY TO CONSIDER ALL INFORMATION AT HAND REGARDING
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JANUARY 26 SPECIAL GDR TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES. REPS

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SAID THAT GAUS WOULD BE RAISING ISSUE IN 31 JANUARY MEETING IN EAST BERLIN WITH GDR COUNTERPART NIER AND THAT, BASED ON WHAT GAUS WAS TOLD, THE DELEGATION WOULD MEET AGAIN ON 1 FEBRUARY TO DECIDE IF THE FRG WOULD REQUEST AN URGENT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.

2. FRG REPS SAID THAT FEELING OF TRANSIT DELEGATION, WHICH THEY SHARED, WAS THAT SINCE MEASURES TAKEN BY GDR SUCH AS SEARCHING LUGGAGE AND ORDERING TRAVELERS TO GET OUT OF VEHICLES WERE NOT CONSISTENT WITH A SEARCH FOR INDIVIDUALS, THE GDR HAD USED. BONA FIDE MANHUNT TO PUT ON A DEMONSTRATION OF CAPACITY AND WILLING TO PUSH OUTER LIMITS OF AGREEMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, FRG REPS SAID THEY HAD NO SPECIFIC INDICATION THAT THE CONTROLS WERE CONNECTED WITH BONN'S DECISION TO ESTABLISH ITS FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (FEA) IN BERLIN.

3. FRG REPS ALSO REPORTED THAT THEIR TRANSIT DELEGATION HAD ISOLATED CERTAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE LATEST CONTROLS AND A SIMILAR SITUATION IN 1973 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE USSR/GDR WINTER MANEUVERS: IN 1973 THE RED ARMY PLAYED THE LARGER ROLE IN THE CONTROLS, WHEREAS THE NVA PARTICIPATION WAS GREATER IN 1974; IN 1973 THE CONTROLS HAD BEEN CONCENTRATED IN THE ERFURTAREA, BUT THIS YEAR IT APPEARED THE OPERATION WAS MUCH MORE WIDESPREAD WITH ONLY THE NORTHERN AREA OF THE GDR APPARENTLY UNAFFECTED (FOR EXAMPLE, FRG REPS SAID THEY HAD NO REPORT OF CONTROLS ON THE LAUENBURG ROUTE, JUST EAST OF HAMBURG); AND LASTLY, IN 1973 THE GDR HAD TOLD BONN THAT SEARCHES WOULD BE MADE OF TRANSIT TRAVELERS IN SPECIFIC CASES, WHEREAS IN 1974 THE GDR DENIED ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CONTROLS AND TRANSIT TRAFFIC.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE INCLINED TO THE VIEW THAT THE GDR ACTION WAS, INDEED, CONNECTED WITH THE FEA, IF ONLY AS EMPLOYMENT OF EXAGGERATED MEASURES IN CONNECTION WITH A LEGITIMATE MANHUNT. SINCE WE MAY HAVE TO AT SOME POINT REACT VERY QUICKLY TO SUCH GDR MEASURES, IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO AGAIN DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN DETAIL IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE BONN GROUP WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON WHAT IF ANY ACTIONS THE GDR CAN LEGITIMATELY TAKE BASED BOTH ON THE TRANSIT TRAFFIC AGREEMENT AND ON WHATEVER RIGHTS ALL STATES MAY HAVE TO PRESERVE PUBLIC ORDER.
HILLENBRAND

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